

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8098

INFO USLO PEKING

UNCLAS HONG KONG 8948

FOR AGRICULTURE, FAS: FE AREA OFFICER AND BERNITZ, ETSD, FROM
AGRICULTURAL OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD

SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-PRC EXCHANGE OF PLANT MATERIALS AND ZOO ANIMALS

REF: FASTO'S 95 AND 81 (INCORRECT NUMBER); TOFAS'S 128 AND 130

1. AG OFFICER FULLY APPRECIATED DIFFICULTIES IN ATTEMPTING
WORK OUT EXCHANGES SUGGESTED IN REF TOFAS'S, BUT BELIEVED IT
WAS WORTH EXPLORING AS ONE POSSIBLE AVENUE LEADING TO AN
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND PLANT MATERIALS AND DEVELOPMENT
OF A WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US AND PRC AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS.

2. IN VIEW RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF HK OFFICE OF
FOREIGN TRADE ENTERPRISE AND OF PACIFIC TRADING AND AGENCY
CO., LTD., FIRM WHICH ORIGINALLY SANCTIONED EXCHANGE EXPERI-
MENT BEFORE PRESENTING AS COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY, AGOFFICER
MUST NOW RECOMMEND THAT BOTH PLANT BREEDING MATERIALS AND
ZOO ANIMALS BE HANDLED AS COMMERCIAL TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.
THIS REFLECTS DESIRE OF CHINESE OFFICIALS WHO EXPRESSED
BELIEF THAT ATTEMPTED EXCHANGE OF EITHER PLANTS OR ANIMALS
NOT CURRENTLY FEASIBLE, AT LEAST AT LEVEL OF TRADE ENTER-
PRISES. THEY STILL WISH OBTAIN ITEMS LISTED IN REF TOFAS'S
THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS, HOWEVER.

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3. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE AREA OFFICER

INFORMING APPROPRIATE ARS OFFICIALS THIS DEVELOPMENT AND EXPRESS APPRECIATION THEIR EFFORTS WORK OUT EXCHANGE OF PLANT MATERIALS. ASSUME BERNITZ CAN CIRCULATE AS TRADE OPPORTUNITY, AND RECOMMEND THAT BE DONE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ALSO, IN VIEW OF DR. PHILLIPS UNAVAILABILITY, ASSUME ZOO ANIMALS MORE APPROPRIATELY HANDLED BY COMMERCE DEPARTMSNH, THUS RECOMMEND PASSING SPECIFICATIONS IN TOFAS 130 TO COMMERCE FOR DISSEMINATION AS EXPORT OPPORTUNITY.

4. QUOTATIONS FOR PLANT BREEDING MATERIALS ON BASIS AIR FREIGHT, CIF HONG KONG, SHOULD BE SENT TO PACIFIC TRADING UND AGENCY CO., LTD., 701 CANTON HOUSE, 54-56 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG (CABLE: PACIC-HONG KONG). QUOTATIONS FOR ZOO ANIMALS ON BASIS SURFACE SHIPMENT CIF HONG KONG, ALSO TO PACIFIC TRADING.

5. AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE INFORM CONGEN WHICH PLANT MATERIALS LISTED IN TOFAS 128 CANNOT BE PURCHASED IN U.S. AGOFFICER WILL INFORM PACIFIC TRADING SO OTHER ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE ATTEMPTED.

6. REQUEST NO MENTION BE MADE OF PRC AS DESTINATION PLANTS AND ANIMALS IN ORDER PRECLUDE BOTH PUBLICITY AND THE BYPASSING OF PACIFIC TRADING WHICH ORIGINALLY PRESENTED TRADE OPPORTUNITY TO CONGEN.
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